

Appendix 4: Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Matrix

Screening Matrix for Eversden and Wimpole Woods SAC

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives for the Site</p>	<p>Eversden & Wimpole Woods SAC Grid Ref: TL 340526</p> <p>Reason for designation: This site has been designated as a SAC due to the presence of a colony of Barbastelle bats. The woods comprise a mixture of ancient coppice woodland in the Eversden woods and high forest woods likely to be of more recent origin in the Wimpole Woods.</p> <p>A colony of Barbastelle bats is present at Wimpole Woods, where the trees are used as a summer maternity roost. Most of the roost sites are within tree crevices. The bats also use the site as a foraging area and some of the woodland is used as a flight path when bats forage outside the site. The Barbastelle bat is one of the UK's rarest mammals.</p> <p>The site is located outside of the Cambridge City boundary, within South Cambridgeshire District Council's area.</p>
<p>Are there any other projects or plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect the Eversden and Wimpole Woods?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the local authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan, the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations. There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the woods, namely the North West Cambridge Area Action Plan and the Cambridge East area action plan. These plans include allocations of land for development.</p>

Other relevant plans:

Title	Date of Adoption
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012
Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011
Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010
Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006
Cambridge Local Plan 2006	
Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007
Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007
Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD	2008
Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council	
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031, South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Issues and Options 2 – Part 1 Joint Consultation on Development Strategy and Site Options on the Edge of Cambridge	2013
Cambridge East Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
North West Cambridge Area Action Plan DPD	2009
Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF:	
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document	○ 2011
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document	○ 2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map A – Mineral and Transport Proposals	○ 2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map B – Waste Management Proposals	○ 2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map C – Mineral Safeguarding Areas	○ 2011
○ The Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning	○ 2011

	Document	
	○ The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities Supplementary Planning Document	○ 2011
	○ The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD	○ 2012
	Cambridgeshire County Council	
	Cambridgeshire Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 Policies and Strategy	2011
	South Cambridgeshire District Council	
	South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy DPD	2007
	South Cambridgeshire Site Specific Policies DPD,	2010
	South Cambridgeshire Generic Development Control Policies DPD	2007
	Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
	Fen Drayton Former LSA SPD	2011
	Orchard Park Design Guide SPD	2011
	Health Impact Assessment SPD	2011
	Landscape in New Developments SPD	2010
	District Design Guide SPD	2010
	Affordable Housing SPD	2010
	Listed Buildings SPD	2009
	Biodiversity SPD	2009
	Trees and Development sites SPD	2009
	Public Art SPD - Adopted January 2009 (SCDC)	2009
	Open Space in New Developments SPD	2009
	Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD	2009
	Cottenham Village Design Statement SPD	2007
	South Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Traveller DPD	2006
	Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007
	Huntingdonshire District Council	
	Huntingdonshire Core Strategy	2009
	Huntingdonshire Development Management DPD Proposed Submission, 2010	2010
	Huntingdon West Area Action Plan,	2011

	Local Plan to 2036	In progress
	Huntingdonshire Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD – Issues Report	2009
	Central Bedfordshire Council and Luton Borough Council	
	Bedfordshire & Luton Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2000-2015,	2005
	Managing Waste in New Developments SPD	2006
	The Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Strategic Sites and Policies – Submission Document	2012
	Hertfordshire County Council	
	The Minerals Local Plan 2002 - 2016	2007
	Waste Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Document	2012
	Waste Site Allocations Local Development Document (currently being progressed towards adoption).	In Progress
	Central Bedfordshire	
	Central Bedfordshire Council, Core Strategy & Development Management Policies (For North Bedfordshire)	2009
	Site Allocations DPD for North Bedfordshire	2011
	Saved Local Plan 2007 Policies (2007) and joint Core Strategy (endorsed for Development Management purposes)	2007 2011
	Bedford Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan	2008

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from the Eversden and Wimpole Woods and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from these woods.</p>	There are no policies or site options in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on these woods.

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	<p>Eversden and Wimpole Woods are home to the Barbastelle bat (<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>), which can forage up to 20km from their roost sites, although this distance is more typically around 6-8km. Barbastelle bats require minimal disturbance within 2km of their roost. The main area of importance for these bats has been identified in the South Cambridgeshire Biodiversity SPD as shown on Map 1 of this document and identified in their Sustainability Scoping Report..</p> <p>While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, the sites are located outside the main area of importance for the Barbastelle bat.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF includes an allocation for an extension to the Barrington Quarry, which lies within the area of importance. The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) full assessment of the Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document (DPD) concluded that the proposed mineral site would not have a direct effect on the SAC owing to the distance of the two sites, even for surface water mediated effects that act sometimes at considerable distance. In relation to the off site occurrence of the Barbastelle Bats it was concluded that none of the identified flight routes took the Barbastelle bats to or past the Barrington proposed extraction site, although it may be possible that east-west on the north side of the existing chalk pit may be used. However, as the new extraction proposal encroaches no closer to this tree belt than the existing quarry operation and as all pathways were either absent or too long, no adverse effects</p>	<p>The woods are relatively isolated and are not located near to any of the locations for major development</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulation Assessment, which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded within the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocation at Barrington Quarry.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>were concluded.</p> <p>The closest major developments to these woods are on the fringes of Cambridge (the Southern Fringe Area Development Framework 2006 and North West of Cambridge Area Action Plan 2008). An Area Action Plan has been adopted for the Southern Fringe (by South Cambridgeshire District Council) and an Area Action Plan has been produced for the North West Cambridge site. Both of these sites are over 8km from the woods and are outside the area of importance.</p>	
Recreational pressure and disturbance	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation</p> <p>Likewise in South Cambridgeshire where there are proposals to increase the dwelling stock to 20,000 or less. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, South Cambridgeshire Issues & Options Report or any other plans are within 5km of these woods. The closest major development on the fringes of Cambridge is over 8km away from the sites and the closest development,.</p> <p>The woods form part of a Country Walk and forms part of the wider countryside footpath network. Their form and character,</p>	<p>While the provision of an element of residential development through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 site could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from the Eversden and Wimpole Woods, leads to the conclusion that the Plan will not lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on the woods. There are no major options in the South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options Report that are within 5km.</p> <p>The Natura 2000 data for these woods indicates that the current use of the woods is</p>

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	<p>along with their relative distance from car parking and public transport limits their attractiveness for informal recreation and leisure. Many of the visitors to this area tend to focus their attention on the National Trust property at Wimpole Hall.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals will be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as the Eversden and Wimpole Woods.</p> <p>With regard to South Cambridgeshire new strategic open spaces are already planned, and the Green Infrastructure Strategy proposes new countryside recreation opportunities, to support growth in the area.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on the Eversden and Wimpole Woods SAC as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	<p>considered to be compatible with the Barbastelle bats' interests and should not affect their population or roosts. As the bats roost in the trees and forage at sunset/night they are not affected by day visitors.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on the Eversden and Wimpole Woods SAC as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>
Water quantity and quality	This is not relevant for the conservation objectives of this site Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy findings (August 2011) - The site did not meet the criteria to be included in the assessment	Not relevant
Changes in pollution levels	The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to	As the Eversden and Wimpole Woods are not

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p> <p>As the development sites within Cambridge City will be some distance away from the Eversden & Wimpole Woods, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will not have an impact on these woods.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments or major transport routes in close proximity to the woods. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The level of development proposed in South Cambridgeshire's</p>	<p>in close proximity to proposed major development sites and major transport routes it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the woods as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in the vicinity of the site and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded within the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocation at Barrington Quarry.</p> <p>As the sites proposed by South Cambridgeshire are not in close proximity to any developments proposed or major transport routes, it is not considered that there</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>options report could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by development, or from the car journeys generated. Whilst the actual impact of the Plan on air quality alone or in combination with other plans is difficult to quantify, the location of the site is not in close proximity to any major development options proposed or major transport routes.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF includes an allocation for an extension to Barrington Quarry, which is 4km from the woods. A full HRA was carried out before this site was allocated within the adopted Site Specific Proposals DPD as discussed above and the assessment produced by RPS concluded no adverse effects either alone or in combination with any other plans and projects at that time.</p>	<p>is likely to be any significant impact on their nature conservation objectives. Their options report proposes general policy requirements that development does not harm the identified European sites to address their quality</p>

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
<p>With regards to the Eversden and Wimpole Woods SAC, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 is unlikely to have a significant impact on the conservation objectives of this site. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF, no adverse effects were identified as all pathways were either absent or too long when examined.</p>

Screening Matrix for the Devil's Dyke SAC

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives for the Site</p>	<p>Devil's Dyke SAC Grid Ref: TL 611622</p> <p>Reason for designation: This site has been designated as a SAC due to the presence of semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco – Brometalia</i>).</p> <p>Devil's Dyke consists of a mosaic of calcareous grasslands (CG3 <i>Bromus erectus</i> and CG5 <i>Bromus erectus – Brachypodium pinnatum</i>). It is the only known UK semi-natural dry grassland site for lizard orchid (<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>).</p> <p>The site is located outside of the Cambridge City boundary, within East Cambridgeshire District Council's area.</p>												
<p>Are there any other projects or plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect Devil's Dyke?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan, the Cambridge East area action plan and the Statement of Community Involvement. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations. There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council). These plans include allocations of land for development.</p> <p>Other relevant plans:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="539 1091 2045 1326"> <thead> <tr> <th>Title</th> <th>Date of Adoption</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td>2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td>2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td>2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td>2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td>2006</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title	Date of Adoption	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006
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Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013												
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012												
Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011												
Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010												
Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006												

Cambridge Local Plan 2006	2006/9
Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007
Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007
Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD	2008
Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council	
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031, South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Issues and Options 2 – Part 1 Joint Consultation on Development Strategy and Site Options on the Edge of Cambridge	2013
Cambridge East Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
North West Cambridge Area Action Plan DPD	2009
Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF:	
o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document	o 2011
o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document	o 2012
o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map A – Mineral and Transport Proposals	o 2012
o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map B – Waste Management Proposals	o 2012
o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map C – Mineral Safeguarding Areas	o 2011
o The Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning Document	o 2011
o The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities Supplementary Planning Document	o 2011
o The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD	o 2012
Cambridgeshire County Council	
Cambridgeshire Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 Policies and Strategy	2011
South Cambridgeshire District Council	
South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy DPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Site Specific Policies DPD,	2010
South Cambridgeshire Generic Development Control Policies DPD	2007

Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
Fen Drayton Former LSA SPD	2011
Orchard Park Design Guide SPD	2011
Health Impact Assessment SPD	2011
Landscape in New Developments SPD	2010
District Design Guide SPD	2010
Affordable Housing SPD	2010
Listed Buildings SPD	2009
Biodiversity SPD	2009
Trees and Development sites SPD	2009
Public Art SPD - Adopted January 2009 (SCDC)	2009
Open Space in New Developments SPD	2009
Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD	2009
Cottenham Village Design Statement SPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Traveller DPD	2006
Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007
East Cambridgeshire District Council	
East Cambridgeshire Core Strategy	2009
Ely Area Action Plan Options Paper and Site Allocations Option Paper	2010
Ely Masterplan (2009), the Soham Vision Masterplan (2010), the Littleport Masterplan (2011).and Burwell Masterplan (2013)	
Strategic issues and village vision issues and options consultations and technical work	2011/12
Review of East Cambridgeshire Core Strategy	Due 2013
SPDs:	
• Ashley Conservation Area	• 2010
• Burwell High Town Conservation Area	• 2010
• Burwell North Street Conservation Area	• 2010
• Haddenham Conservation Area	• 2010
• Hill Row Haddenham Conservation Area	• 2010

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soham Conservation Area • Ely Conservation Area • Stretham Conservation Area • Dullingham Conservation Area • Littleport Conservation Area Appraisal • Little Downham Conservation Area Appraisal • Sutton Conservation Area Appraisal • Shop Fronts Design Guide • County Wildlife Sites • Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations (Oct.2011 - updated version). • SPD on Developer Contributions – a review of the current SPD – expected to be adopted May 2013. • Design Guide SPD • Contaminated Land - Guidance on Submitting Planning Applications on Land that may be Contaminated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2010 • 2010 • 2010 • 2010 • 2011 • Due 2013 • Due 2013 • 2010 • 2010 • 2011 • Due 2013 • 2012 • 2010
Forest Heath		
Forest Heath Core Strategy, Adopted May 2010 by the Council quashed by central Government	2010	
Forest Heath Local Plan 1995 Saved Policies	1995	
Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council Development Management Policies Submission Document	2012	
Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council Joint Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Consultation Document	2012	
Forest Heath District Council Core Strategy Policy CS7 Single Issue Review Issues and Options document	2012	
Open Space, Sport and Recreation Supplementary Planning Document	2011	
St Edmundsbury Borough Council		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Edmunds bury Core Strategy Development Plan Document • Rural Site Allocations Preferred Options DPD (2010) • Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031, Haverhill Vision 2031, Rural Vision 2031 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 • 2010 	

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Devil's Dyke and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives for this site relate to plant species within the grassland itself as opposed to animal species. Therefore there are no species listed as important to the integrity of the site that travel to forage outside the boundaries of the site.	Due to the distance of the site from the city and the fact that there are no species listed as important to the integrity of the site that travel to forage outside the boundaries of the site there is not likely to be any significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.
Recreational pressure and disturbance	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 site allocations will include an element of residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Local Plan to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation and likewise in South Cambridgeshire where there are proposals to increase the dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, or South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options Report or any other plans are within 5km of this site. The closest major development site to Devil's Dyke is at Cambridge East, which is over 10km from the site. Cambridge East will now only be partially delivered. A small part of the Cambridge East Site will be delivered in the Local Plan Period</p>	<p>While the provision of an element of residential development through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 site could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from Devil's Dyke, leads to the conclusion that the Plan will not lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on the woods.</p> <p>The impact of public access is not listed in the vulnerabilities relating to this site contained within the site data.</p>

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Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>through South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. It is not considered that the level of public use at Devil's Dyke will increase greatly as a result of proposals contained within these documents.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2011).</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Devil's Dyke as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	<p>It is therefore considered that there is not likely to be a significant impact on Devil's Dyke as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p> <p>In view of the limited additional recreational use that will occur at Devil's Dyke, there are not considered to be any likely significant effects from options identified in the South Cambridgeshire District Council Issues and Options Report.</p>
Water quantity and quality	This is not relevant for the conservation objectives of this site Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy Phase 2 findings (August 2011) - The site was not mentioned in the assessment.	Not relevant
Changes in pollution levels	The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014, this policy relates	As Devil's Dyke is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in the vicinity of the site and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy

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	<p>to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Devil's Dyke. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The level of development proposed by the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by development, or from the car journeys generated. Whilst the actual impact of the Local Plan on air quality alone or in combination with other plans is difficult to quantify, the location of the development sites are not in close proximity to any development options.</p> <p>The site is adjacent to the A14 but this is roughly at right angles to the road and as a result only a limited part of the Dyke is actually adjacent to the A14. Policies contained within the Cambridge Draft Local Plan and South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options Report and other documents have the objective of reducing commuting into Cambridge by focussing development in and on the edge of Cambridge and in the new town of</p>	<p>through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>South Cambridgeshire's options report proposes general policy requirements that development does not harm the identified European Sites and to address air quality.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded within the HRAs for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocation for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge.</p>

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	<p>Northstowe to the north west of Cambridge. It is therefore considered that there are unlikely to be any significant increases in the amount of traffic using this part of the A14.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulation Assessments produced by RPS for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) on Devil's Dyke. The HRA documents considered all the proposed policies and allocations, including the clinical waste facility allocated Area of Search at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. Air pollutants were ruled out from the clinical waste facility because of the distance of the pathway. Furthermore, it was concluded that any adverse effects on the integrity of the Devil's Dyke SAC would be avoided by the regulation of emissions under IPPC and EC Waste Incineration Directive Requirements in place at that time. Overall no adverse impacts were identified on Devil's Dyke SAC.</p>	

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives of Devil's Dyke SAC. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Devil's Dyke SAC.

Screening Matrix for the Fenland SAC and Ramsar Sites

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives for the Site</p>	<p>Fenland SAC comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wicken Fen; • Chippenham Fen; and • Woodwalton Fen <p>Reason for designation: This site has been designated as a SAC due to the presence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Molinia</i> meadow on calcareous, peaty or clayey silt laden soils (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>); • Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of <i>Caricion davallianae</i>; • Significant presence of Spined Loach (<i>Cobitis taenia</i>); and • Presence of Great Crested Newts (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>) <p>The Fenland SAC contains one of the most extensive examples of the tall herb-rich East Anglian type of fen- meadow (<i>Molinia caerulea</i> – <i>Cirsium dissectum</i>), particularly at Chippenham Fen. It is important for the conservation of the geographical and ecological range of the habitat type, as this type of fen-meadow is now rare and ecologically distinctive to East Anglia.</p> <p>The individual sites that make up the Fenland SAC hold large areas of calcareous fens with a long and well documented history of regular management. There is a full range of habitat types ranging from species-poor <i>Cladium</i> dominated fen to species-rich fen with a lower proportion of <i>Cladium</i> and containing such species as black bog-rush (<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>), tormentil (<i>Potentilla erecta</i>) and meadow thistle (<i>Cirsium dissectum</i>). There are good transitions to purple moor-grass (<i>Molinia caerulea</i>) and rush pastures, all set within a mosaic of reed beds and wet pastures. The Fens also support a significant population of spined loach (<i>Cobitis taenia</i>) and great crested newts (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>).</p> <p>The three sites that make up the Fenland SAC are located outside of the Cambridge City boundary. Each of the sites is also designated as a Ramsar site and a summary of the conservation objectives for each site is given below.</p>
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- **Wicken Fen SAC and Ramsar Site**

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the Ramsar site</p>	<p>Wicken Fen SAC and Ramsar site</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL 555700</p> <p>Reason for designation as a Ramsar site: Wicken Fen is considered to be one of the most outstanding remnants of the East Anglian peat fens. It supports one species from the British Red Data Book of plants, the fen violet (<i>Viola persicifolia</i>), which survives at only two other sites in the UK. It also contains eight nationally scarce plants and 121 British Red Data book invertebrates.</p> <p>The site is located outside of the Cambridge City boundary, in East Cambridgeshire District Council's area.</p>																				
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect Wicken Fen?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan and the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations. There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant plans:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="524 959 2047 1334"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="524 959 1704 994">Title</th> <th data-bbox="1704 959 2047 994"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 994 1704 1062">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1704 994 2047 1062">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1062 1704 1098">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1062 2047 1098">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1098 1704 1133">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1098 2047 1133">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1133 1704 1168">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1133 2047 1168">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1168 1704 1203">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1168 2047 1203">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1203 1704 1238">Cambridge Local Plan 2006</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1203 2047 1238">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1238 1704 1273">Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1238 2047 1273">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1273 1704 1308">Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1273 2047 1308">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="524 1308 1704 1334">Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1704 1308 2047 1334">2008</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title		Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006	Cambridge Local Plan 2006	2006	Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007	Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007	Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD	2008
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THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Wicken Fen and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives relate to species of plant within the fen and species of invertebrates. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, this is within the built environment of Cambridge, and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species listed as being important to this site. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.	Due to the distance of Wicken Fen from the city, it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.
Recreational pressure and disturbance	Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation and likewise in South Cambridgeshire where there are proposals to increase the dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft	While the provision of an element of residential development at the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, policy options including the delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from Wicken Fen, leads to the conclusion that the Plan will

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Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>Cambridge Local Plan, or South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options Report or any other plans are within 5km of Wicken Fen. Access to the site is limited to public rights of way, with any access beyond these being by permit only and can therefore be controlled.</p> <p>South Cambridgeshire district Council considers that the level of public use through allocated developments (identified in their Issues and Options Report) will not increase greatly. There are other countryside access opportunities, existing or proposed, available in more accessible locations to the major centres of population. New strategic open spaces are already planned, and the Green Infrastructure Strategy proposes new countryside recreation opportunities, to support growth in the area.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridge Sub-region Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2006). These proposals will be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as Wicken Fen.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Wicken Fen as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	<p>not lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.</p> <p>.</p> <p>The impact of public access is not listed in the vulnerabilities relating to this site contained within the site data. The Natural Trust manages access to the site and zoning ensures that the more remote parts of the site are left undisturbed.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there is unlikely to be a significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Wicken Fen as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>

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Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Water quantity and quality	<p>The increase in housing identified in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will place higher demand on water. However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand, setting water consumption requirements in line with levels 5 and 6 of the code for sustainable homes. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems through the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from Wicken Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Wicken Fen. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>With regards to the impact of increased water consumption as a result of new development, many of the plans identified which are outside Cambridge City contain requirements for water conservation strategies to be provided as part of new</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality at Wicken Fen such as the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As such it is felt that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, is unlikely to result in significant impacts on the nature conservation objectives of the site.</p> <p>The Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy 2011 states that analysis of hydrology indicates that Wicken Fen is topographically higher than the Cam and drains via Wicken Lode then Burwell Lode towards it. As the Cam does not feed it, there are no associated risks, which could arise from additional sewage effluent discharge at Cambridge irrespective of any changes in effluent flow or quality from that site.</p> <p>Options are proposed in the South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options Report to ensure developments protects water quality, insuring appropriate waste water</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>development proposals. Water companies have planned for new resources and infrastructure in their water resources plans that were submitted in 2004, which cover the period up to 2030. These take into account the growth as outlined in the Sustainable Communities Plan and the majority of supply is anticipated to come from existing licenses (Source: Maintaining Water Supply, Environment Agency, July 2004). Any additional water abstraction from Wicken Fen can only take place if it is shown that it does not adversely affect the sites ecological integrity (Source: The Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Consultation Document, Environment Agency October 2006).</p> <p>The water level problems identified as a vulnerability of the site primarily relate to its relationship with the river Cam and issues caused by flood protection measures local to the site introduced in the 1960's.</p> <p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy Phase 2 findings (August 2011) - This wetland is located approximately 1km at its nearest point east of the Cam valley, downstream of Cambridge. The Cam receives treated sewage discharges from Cambridge wastewater treatment works (WwTW), just south of the A11 at Cambridge. That WwTW would receive additional effluent in the future from proposed development at Cambridge, with the potential consequences for downstream flows and water quality.</p> <p>However, analysis of hydrology indicates that Wicken Fen is topographically higher than the Cam and drains via Wicken</p>	<p>infrastructure is available, and appropriate pollution control measures are included on sites The Council is working with Anglian Water and Cambridge water to explore infrastructure requirements of site options, and ensure developments can be appropriately serviced.</p> <p>It is therefore felt that the impact of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 and other plans is unlikely to have a significant impact on Wicken Fen.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the policies and allocations within the Minerals and Waste documents, including the allocation at Dimmock's Cote Quarry in Wicken.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>Lode then Burwell Lode towards it. As the Cam does not feed it, there are no associated risks, which could arise from additional sewage effluent discharge at Cambridge irrespective of any changes in effluent flow or quality from that site, so such scenarios have not been considered further in this assessment.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone or in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including Dimmock's Cote Quarry in Wicken. No adverse effects were concluded for Wicken Fen SAC and Ramsar site owing to the absence of a water related pathway.</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	<p>The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p>	<p>As Wicken Fen is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in the vicinity of new developments and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>As the development sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from Wicken Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City is unlikely to have a significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Wicken Fen. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone or in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including Dimmock's Cote Quarry in Wicken. No adverse effects were concluded for Wicken Fen SAC and Ramsar site owing to the absence of a water related pathway.</p>	<p>Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the policies and allocations within the Minerals and Waste documents, including the allocation at Dimmock's Cote Quarry in Wicken.</p>

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:

The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031, both alone and in combination with other plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for Wicken Fen. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Wicken SAC and Ramsar site or on the wider Fenland SAC which comprises of Wicken Fen; Chippenham Fen; and Woodwalton Fen.

Chippenham Fen SAC and Ramsar Site

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the Ramsar site</p>	<p>Chippenham Fen SAC and Ramsar Site</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL 648697</p> <p>Reason for designation as a Ramsar site: Chippenham Fen is a spring-fed calcareous basin mire with a long history of management, which is partly reflected in the diversity of its present day vegetation. The invertebrate fauna is very rich, partly due to its transitional position between Fenland and Breckland. The species list contains many rare and scarce invertebrates, characteristic of ancient British fenland sites. The site supports diverse flora, with rare and scarce species. The site is the stronghold of Cambridge milk parsley <i>Selinum carvifolia</i>.</p> <p>The site is located outside of the Cambridge City boundary in East Cambridgeshire District Council's area.</p>												
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect Chippenham Fen?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan and the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations. There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant plans:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="472 1091 2051 1334"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="472 1091 1771 1126">Title</th> <th data-bbox="1778 1091 2051 1126"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1131 1771 1193">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1778 1131 2051 1193">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1198 1771 1230">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1778 1198 2051 1230">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1235 1771 1267">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1778 1235 2051 1267">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1272 1771 1303">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1778 1272 2051 1303">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="472 1308 1771 1334">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1778 1308 2051 1334">2006</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title		Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Edmunds bury Core Strategy Development Plan Document • Rural Site Allocations Preferred Options DPD (2010) • Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031, Haverhill Vision 2031, Rural Vision 2031 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 • 2010
SuffolkCounty Council	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Core Strategy • Minerals Core Strategy • Minerals Specific Site Allocations DPD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 • 2008 • 2009

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Chippenham Fen and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives relate to species of plant within the fen and species of invertebrates. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, this is within the built environment of Cambridge, and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species listed as being important to Chippenham Fen. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.	<p>Due to the distance of the site from the city it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.</p> <p>Allocations identified in South Cambridgeshire District Councils Issues and Options Report is not likely to have a significant impact are specified listed as important to the integrity of the site.</p>
Recreational pressure and disturbance	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside for recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 which could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, are within 5km of Chippenham Fen (Cambridge East is over 15km from the site).</p> <p>The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan proposes to increase the</p>	While the provision of an element of residential development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from Chippenham Fen, leads to the conclusion that the Plan is unlikely to lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. Increasing the dwelling stock in the district could increase demand for countryside recreation. However, no options identified are within 5km of the site. Access to the wider site away from rights of way is limited. The site is a significant distance from development options identified in the Issues and Options Report.</p> <p>Both the site and the surrounding area are privately owned. While there are rights of way running across the site, access beyond these paths is by permit only. The Ramsar data sheets indicate a low level of usage by local villagers with few people applying for permits for recreational purposes.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals would be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as Chippenham Fen. The Green Infrastructure Strategy for Cambridgeshire published in July 2011 identifies Chippenham Fen as a target area for biodiversity enhancement and increased public access balanced against the conservation importance of this site and indicates that water management investigations are being carried out by the Environment Agency to understand the best method of mitigating the reduction in water in the aquifer due to settlement growth in Red Lodge, Newmarket and other parts of the catchment. Cambridge is not</p>	<p>It is considered unlikely that the level of public use of Chippenham Fen will increase greatly as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>considered to be in this catchment.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Chippenham Fen as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	
Water quantity and quality	<p>The increase in housing identified in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will place higher demand on water. However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand, setting water consumption requirements in line with levels 5 and 6 of the code for sustainable homes. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems through the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from Chippenham Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Chippenham Fen. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water runoff to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality a Chippenham Fen. As such it is considered that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, will be unlikely to have a significant impact on Chippenham Fen.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>With regards to the impact of increased water consumption as a result of new development, many of the plans identified which are outside Cambridge City contain requirements for water conservation strategies to be provided as part of new development proposals. Water companies have planned for new resources and infrastructure in their water resources plans that were submitted in 2004, which cover the period up to 2030. These take into account the growth as outlined in the Sustainable Communities Plan and the majority of supply is anticipated to come from existing licenses (Source: Maintaining Water Supply, Environment Agency, July 2004). Any additional water abstraction from Chippenham Fen can only take place if it is shown that it does not adversely affect the sites ecological integrity (Source: The Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Consultation Document, Environment Agency October 2006).</p> <p>The water level problems identified as a vulnerability of the site primarily relate to its relationship with the river Cam and issues caused by flood protection measures local to the site introduced in the 1960's.</p> <p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy findings (August 2011) - The Fenland SAC did not meet the criteria to be included in the assessment</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport.	As Chippenham Fen is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014, this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p> <p>The urban extensions to Cambridge set out in the Local Plan should help to reduce the level of commuting into Cambridge and its associated pollution by redressing the balance of homes to jobs and allow people to use more sustainable forms of transport. However, the scale of development proposed may lead to an increase in local pollution, but this will be kept to a minimum. As the development sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from Chippenham Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City is unlikely to have a significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Chippenham Fen. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance</p>	<p>significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in the vicinity of new developments and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRAs for the policies and allocations within the Minerals and Waste Documents, including the allocation for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>(including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The level of development proposed by the South Cambridgeshire District Councils Issues and Options Report could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by new developments or increased journeys. However as the sites are not in close proximity to the site options proposed, it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on their nature or conservation objectives. The options report proposes general policy requirements that development does not harm the identified European Sites and to address air quality.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including the proposed clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge. No adverse effects were concluded for Chippenham Fen SAC and Ramsar site owing to the absence of a water related pathway and the fact that the site is not sensitive to air pollution.</p>	

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:

The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for Chippenham Fen. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Chippenham Fen SAC and Ramsar site or on the wider Fenland SAC which comprises of Wicken Fen; Chippenham Fen; and Woodwalton Fen.

- **Woodwalton Fen SAC and Ramsar Site**

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the Ramsar site</p>	<p>Woodwalton Fen SAC and Ramsar Site</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL 230840</p> <p>Reason for designation as a Ramsar site: Woodwalton Fen lies within an area of one of the remaining parts of East Anglia that has not been drained. The site supports two species of flora listed in the British Red Data Book for plants, fen violet <i>Viola persicifloia</i> and fen wood rush <i>Luzula pallescens</i>.</p> <p>The site is located outside of the Cambridge City boundary, in Huntingdonshire District Council's area.</p>																				
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect Woodwalton Fen?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan and the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant plans:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="450 991 2051 1345"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="450 991 1854 1026">Title</th> <th data-bbox="1854 991 2051 1026"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1026 1854 1061">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1026 2051 1061">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1061 1854 1096">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1061 2051 1096">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1096 1854 1131">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1096 2051 1131">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1131 1854 1166">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1131 2051 1166">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1166 1854 1201">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1166 2051 1201">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1201 1854 1236">Cambridge Local Plan 2006</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1201 2051 1236">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1236 1854 1272">Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1236 2051 1272">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1272 1854 1307">Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1272 2051 1307">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="450 1307 1854 1345">Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1854 1307 2051 1345">2008</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title		Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006	Cambridge Local Plan 2006	2006	Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007	Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007	Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD	2008
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Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007																				
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Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council		
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031, South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Issues and Options 2 – Part 1 Joint Consultation on Development Strategy and Site Options on the Edge of Cambridge		2013
Cambridge East Area Action Plan DPD,		2008
North West Cambridge Area Action Plan DPD		2009
Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council		
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF:		
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document	○	2011
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document	○	2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map A – Mineral and Transport Proposals	○	2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map B – Waste Management Proposals	○	2012
○ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map C – Mineral Safeguarding Areas	○	2011
○ The Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning Document	○	2011
○ The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities Supplementary Planning Document	○	2011
○ The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD	○	2012
Cambridgeshire County Council		
Cambridgeshire Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 Policies and Strategy		2011
South Cambridgeshire District Council		
South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy DPD		2007
South Cambridgeshire Site Specific Policies DPD,		2010
South Cambridgeshire Generic Development Control Policies DPD		2007
Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan DPD,		2008
Fen Drayton Former LSA SPD		2011
Orchard Park Design Guide SPD		2011
Health Impact Assessment SPD		2011
Landscape in New Developments SPD		2010
District Design Guide SPD		2010

Affordable Housing SPD	2010
Listed Buildings SPD	2009
Biodiversity SPD	2009
Trees and Development sites SPD	2009
Public Art SPD - Adopted January 2009 (SCDC)	2009
Open Space in New Developments SPD	2009
Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD	2009
Cottenham Village Design Statement SPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Traveller DPD	2006
Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007
Huntingdonshire District Council	
Huntingdonshire Core Strategy	2009
Huntingdonshire Development Management DPD Proposed Submission, 2010	2010
Huntingdon West Area Action Plan,	2011
Local Plan to 2036	In progress
Huntingdonshire Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD – Issues Report	2009
Fenland District Council	
Fenland Local Plan 1993	1993
Fenland Local Plan Draft Core Strategy 2013	2013

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Woodwalton Fen and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives relate to species of plant within the fen. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land	Due to the distance of the site from the city it is not considered that there is likely to be a

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	for development, this is within the built environment of Cambridge on previously developed land, and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species listed as being important to Woodwalton Fen. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.	significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.
Recreational pressure and disturbance	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, are within 5km of Woodwalton Fen, likewise in South Cambridgeshire there are proposals to increase the dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. However, no major proposals contained within the Cambridge Local Plan or South Cambridgeshire Plan or any other plans are within 5km of Woodwalton Fen (Northstowe is over 20km away from the site).</p> <p>Parking is limited at the site – some being available alongside the Great Raveley Drain. There are three marked trails around the fen. There are no public rights of way crossing the fen. Woodwalton Fen has not been a permit only site since around 2003. Although members of the public no longer require Natural England’s permission to access the site there remains in force restricted access to some areas and a no dog policy is</p>	<p>While the provision of an element of residential development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from Woodwalton Fen, leads to the conclusion that the Plan is unlikely to lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.</p> <p>The impact of public access is not listed in the vulnerabilities relating to this site contained within the site data. Public access to some areas of the site is restricted and a no dog policy is maintained.</p> <p>It is considered unlikely that the level of public use of Woodwalton Fen will increase greatly as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>maintained. There are other countryside access opportunities available in more accessible locations and so it is considered unlikely that the proposed plans will lead to a great increase in visitor numbers.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridge Sub-region Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals will be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than Woodwalton Fen.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Woodwalton Fen as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	<p>alone or in combination with other plans.</p>
Water quantity and quality	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 site allocations have the potential to introduce uses onto the site that have a higher demand for water than uses currently on site (for example the introduction residential units). However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems and the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality at Woodwalton Fen. As such it is felt that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, will not result in significant impacts on the nature conservation objectives of the site.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>some distance away from Woodwalton Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Woodwalton Fen. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>With regards to the impact of increased water consumption as a result of new development, many of the plans identified which are outside Cambridge City contain requirements for water conservation strategies to be provided as part of new development proposals. Water companies have planned for new resources and infrastructure in their water resources plans that were submitted in 2004, which cover the period up to 2030. These take into account the growth as outlined in the Sustainable Communities Plan and the majority of supply is anticipated to come from existing licenses (Source: Maintaining Water Supply, Environment Agency, July 2004). Any additional water abstraction from Woodwalton Fen can only take place if it is shown that it does not adversely affect the sites ecological integrity (Source: The Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Consultation Document, Environment Agency October 2006).</p>	<p>It is therefore felt that the impact of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 and other plans are unlikely to have a significant impact on Woodwalton Fen.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRAs for the policies and allocations within the Minerals and Waste documents, including the allocations for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and the recycling Area of Search allocation at Alconbury Airfield.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy findings (August 2011) - The Fenland SAC did not meet the criteria to be assessed through the Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the adopted Cambridgeshire Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including the proposed clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and the recycling Area of Search allocation at Alconbury Airfield. No adverse effects were concluded for Woodwalton Fen SAC and Ramsar site owing to the length of the pathway between Woodwalton Fen and the minerals and waste policies and allocations put forward.</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	<p>The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air</p>	<p>As Woodwalton Fen is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in new developments and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>quality.</p> <p>As the development sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from Woodwalton Fen, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will not have a likely significant impact on Woodwalton Fen.</p> <p>The level of development proposed by the South Cambridgeshire District Councils Issues and Options Report could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by new developments or increased journeys. However as the sites are not in close proximity to the site options proposed, it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on their nature or conservation objectives. The options report proposes general policy requirements that development does not harm the identified European Sites and to address air quality.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Woodwalton Fen. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the adopted</p>	<p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRAs for the policies and allocations within the Minerals and Waste documents, including the allocations for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and the recycling Area of Search allocation at Alconbury Airfield.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	Cambridgeshire Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including the proposed clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and the recycling Area of Search allocation at Alconbury Airfield. No adverse effects were concluded for Woodwalton Fen SAC and Ramsar site owing to the length of the pathway between Woodwalton Fen and the minerals and waste policies and allocations put forward.	

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for Woodwalton Fen. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Woodwalton Fen SAC and Ramsar site or on the wider Fenland SAC which comprises of Wicken Fen; Chippenham Fen; and Woodwalton Fen.

Screening Matrix for the Ouse Washes SAC, SPA and Ramsar Site

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the site</p>	<p>The Ouse Washes</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL 498895</p> <p>The Ouse Washes are a wetland of major international importance comprising seasonally flooded washlands, which are managed through the use of traditional agricultural techniques. It provides breeding and winter habitats for important assemblages of wild bird species, particularly wildfowl and waders.</p> <p>Reason for designation as a SAC: The Ouse Washes contain a significant population of spined loach (<i>Cobitis taenia</i>). The Counter Drain, with its clear water and abundant macrophytes, is particularly important and has a significant population of spined loach.</p> <p>Reason for designation as an SPA The Ouse Washes are a wetland of major international importance comprising seasonally flooded washlands, which are managed through the use of traditional agricultural techniques. It provides breeding and winter habitats for important assemblages of wild bird species, particularly wildfowl and waders.</p> <p>Reason for designation as a Ramsar site The Ouse Washes have been designated as a Ramsar site for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Particularly good example of a natural or near-natural wetland, characteristic of its biogeographical region; • The site supports a number of rare species of flora and fauna; • The site supports a diverse collection of rare breeding waterfowl associated with seasonally flooding wet grassland; • The Washes are of international importance by virtue of regularly supporting over 20,000 waterfowl; • The Washes are important internationally for supporting certain species during the winter <p>The boundaries of the SPA and Ramsar site vary slightly from those of the Ouse Washes SAC, which are primarily located in East Cambridgeshire District and King's Lynn and West Norfolk District.</p>
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North</p>

<p>Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect the Ouse Washes?</p>	<p>West Cambridge area action plan and the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant plans:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="439 480 2040 1345"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="439 480 2040 515">Title</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 515 1823 550">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1823 515 2040 550">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 550 1823 585">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1823 550 2040 585">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 585 1823 620">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 585 2040 620">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 620 1823 655">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 620 2040 655">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 655 1823 691">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 655 2040 691">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 691 1823 726">Cambridge Local Plan 2006</td> <td data-bbox="1823 691 2040 726">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 726 1823 761">Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1823 726 2040 761">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 761 1823 796">Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1823 761 2040 796">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 796 1823 831">Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 796 2040 831">2008</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="439 831 2040 866">Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="439 866 1823 936">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031, South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. 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o Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map C – Mineral Safeguarding Areas	o 2011
o The Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning Document	o 2011
o The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities Supplementary Planning Document	o 2011
o The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD	o 2012
Cambridgeshire County Council	
Cambridgeshire Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 Policies and Strategy	2011
South Cambridgeshire District Council	
South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy DPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Site Specific Policies DPD,	2010
South Cambridgeshire Generic Development Control Policies DPD	2007
Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
Fen Drayton Former LSA SPD	2011
Orchard Park Design Guide SPD	2011
Health Impact Assessment SPD	2011
Landscape in New Developments SPD	2010
District Design Guide SPD	2010
Affordable Housing SPD	2010
Listed Buildings SPD	2009
Biodiversity SPD	2009
Trees and Development sites SPD	2009
Public Art SPD - Adopted January 2009 (SCDC)	2009
Open Space in New Developments SPD	2009
Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD -	2009
Cottenham Village Design Statement SPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Traveller DPD	2006
Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007
Huntingdonshire District Council	
Huntingdonshire Core Strategy	2009
Huntingdonshire Development Management DPD Proposed Submission, 2010	2010
Huntingdon West Area Action Plan,	2011

	Local Plan to 2036	In progress
	Huntingdonshire Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD – Issues Report	2009
	Fenland District Council	
	Fenland Local Plan 1993	1993
	Fenland Local Plan Draft Core Strategy 2013	2013
	Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	
	King's Lynn & West Norfolk Core Strategy	2011
	King's Lynn & West Norfolk Site Specific Allocations and Policies	2011

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from the Ouse Washes and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives relate to species of fauna within the Ouse Washes and Counter Drain. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, this is within the built environment of Cambridge, and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species listed as being important to the Ouse Washes. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.	Due to the distance of the site from the city it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.
Recreational pressure and disturbance	Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to	While the provision of an element of residential development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside

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	<p>increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, are within 5km of the Ouse Washes. Likewise in South Cambridgeshire there are proposals to increase the dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. No major proposals contained within the Cambridge Local Plan, South Cambridgeshire Plan or any other plans are within 5km of the Ouse Washes (Northstowe being 7km away from the nearest point on the Washes).</p> <p>Increasing the dwelling stock in South Cambridgeshire District could increase demand for countryside recreation. However, the site is some distance from the District. There are other countryside access opportunities, existing or proposed, available in more accessible locations to the major centres of population. This includes the Fen Drayton Lakes near Northstowe. New strategic open spaces are already planned, and the Green Infrastructure Strategy proposes new countryside recreation opportunities, to support growth in the area.</p> <p>There is a network of public rights of way through the Washes. The RSPB manages a nature reserve at Welches Dam, while the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust manage a reserve at Welney in Norfolk.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the</p>	<p>recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from the Ouse Washes leads to the conclusion that the Plan is unlikely to lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.</p> <p>The impact of public access is not listed in the vulnerabilities relating to this site contained within the site data. Therefore it is considered unlikely that the level of public use at the Ouse Washes will increase greatly as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>

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	<p>Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals will be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as the Ouse Washes.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on the Ouse Washes as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	
Water quantity and quality	<p>All of the Cambridge City area drains into the Ouse Washes via the River Cam. Exceptional rainfall events cause the River Cam to Flood at Fen Road, Midsummer and Stourbridge Commons and along Riverside. Several of its tributaries flood as well, and development must not increase flood risk to these locations or elsewhere from both urban run off and additional wastewater from Cambridge Sewage Treatment Works.</p> <p>The increase in housing identified in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will place higher demand on water. However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand, setting water consumption requirements in line with levels 5 and 6 of the code for sustainable homes. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems through the Integrated Water</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality and quality at the Ouse Washes. As such it is felt that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, will not result in likely significant impacts on the nature conservation objectives of the site.</p> <p>It is therefore felt that the impact of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 and other plans will not have a likely significant impact on the Ouse Washes.</p>

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	<p>Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from the Ouse Washes. It is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>While it is recognised that while there would be an increase in water consumption and in theory on water quality through increased run off as a result of site allocations proposed in Cambridge City and on the fringes of the City the potential impact will be kept to a minimum. It is also recognised that seasonal flooding plays an important role in maintaining the integrity of the Ouse Washes the Integrated Water Management Policy, will only permit development adjacent to a water body if it actively seeks to enhance the water body in terms of its hydromorphology, biodiversity potential and setting.</p> <p>As the allocation sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from the Ouse Washes, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will not have an impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage</p>	<p>Options are proposed in the South Cambridgeshire Issues and Options report to ensure developments protects water quality, insuring appropriate waste water infrastructure is available, and appropriate pollution control measures are included on sites. The Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy explored the impacts of existing planned development at Northstowe and Cambourne being served by Uttons Drove, and concluded no significant effects. In particular: The WwTW can make only a very minor contribution to total flow at Ouse Washes, and the distance from Uttons Drove WwTW to Ouse Washes is greater than 10 km by river, providing for considerable dilution and dispersal of any contamination between this potential source and potential receptor. Any requirement for HRA associated with additional sewage discharge rests with Anglian Water Services as the body promoting the change in consented discharge and the Environment Agency as the competent authority considering that revised consent. The Council will continue to work with Anglian Water, Cambridge water, and the environment Agency to explore infrastructure requirements of sites, and ensure developments can be appropriately serviced.</p>

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	<p>systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>With regards to the impact of increased water consumption as a result of new development, many of the plans identified that are outside Cambridge City contain requirements for water conservation strategies to be provided as part of new development proposals. Water companies have planned for new resources and infrastructure in their water resources plans that were submitted in 2004, which cover the period up to 2030. These take into account the growth as outlined in the Sustainable Communities Plan and the majority of supply is anticipated to come from existing licenses (Source: Maintaining Water Supply, Environment Agency, July 2004).</p> <p>The Habitats Directive aims to ensure biodiversity through the conservation, maintenance and restoration of natural habitats, flora and fauna at designated Natura 2000 sites. Abstraction can only take place or continue if it is shown that it will not adversely affect the sites ecological integrity (Source: The Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Consultation Document – Environment Agency, 2006).</p> <p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy Phase 2 findings - Ouse Washes SAC, Ramsar site and SSSI lies between the New Bedford River and the Old Bedford River to the east of Earith. The site is seasonally-flooded washland, internationally important for birds. Recent reports identify that water levels across the Ouse Washes are increasingly too high in the Spring</p>	<p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste documents, including the allocations at Block Fen / Langwood Fen.</p>

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	<p>and Summer as a result of impeded seasonal drainage which itself is consequent upon siltation in the Hundred Foot Drain.</p> <p>Potential concerns associated with the Cambridge WCS are related to the discharge of sewage via the Uttons Drove WwTW, which would serve the proposed development at Northstowe. This discharges to the Swavesey Drain, which in turn feeds into the River Great Ouse upstream of Ouse Washes. Significant additional flow could exacerbate the existing problem associated with high Spring / Summer water levels. Significant deterioration in sewage effluent quality could also have adverse effects on standing water quality at Ouse Washes. However, any such risks need to be considered in the context of the following: The distance from Uttons Drove WwTW to Ouse Washes is greater than 10 km by river, providing for considerable dilution and dispersal of any contamination between this potential source and potential receptor.</p> <p>The WwTW can make only a very minor contribution to total flow at Ouse Washes, since the total catchment draining to the River Great Ouse at Earith is approximately 3000 km². For comparison, the mean flow from the sewage works discharge is currently estimated at 4332m³/day compared a mean flow in the Ouse in excess of 1,185,408 m³/day (which is the flow at Offord, upstream of Earith).</p> <p>The current consented dry weather flow (i.e. foul sewage excluding surface drainage) at the works is 3350 m³/day.</p>	

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	<p>However, Anglian Water plc has submitted a proposal to Ofwat under PRO9 (i.e. spending proposals for the period 2010 to 2015) to increase the consent to 6992m³/day. Whilst the existing consent would not be able to accommodate additional influent from proposed development at Northstowe, the proposed new consent would.</p> <p>The proposed revised consent would have associated improvements in effluent quality, to ensure no deterioration in downstream water quality, specifically tightening of effluent quality to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biochemical Oxygen Demand - 10 mg/l (evidence in the Phase 2 WCS indicates the consent might need to be set to 9 mg/l to ensure no deterioration); • Ammonia - 5 mg/l; • Phosphate - 2 mg/l. <p>Thus, any requirement for HRA associated with additional sewage discharge arising at Northstowe rests with Anglian Water Services as the body promoting the change in consented discharge and the Environment Agency as the competent authority considering that revised consent. Based on the revised consents being negotiated between Anglian Water and the Environment Agency this will ensure that there is no deterioration in the downstream watercourse due to growth. Additional flow in the Swavesey Drain network could potentially result from an increase in the rate of surface runoff into watercourses as development is established at the Northstowe greenfield site. However, as this is being promoted as an Eco-</p>	

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	<p>Town it will have a high level of surface water attenuation which, with proposed on-site flood storage for events up to those with a 1 in 200 chance of occurring in any year, would result in run-off rates lower than existing greenfield.</p> <p>Thus, Ouse Washes SAC and Ramsar site can be screened out of any further assessment, but it is noted that implementation of the Northstowe development as planned is subject to approval of the proposed consent revision at Uttons Drove sewage treatment works. And hence further HRA may be required dependent upon the outcome of consenting process / details and appropriate implementation and management of SUDS.</p> <p>All sites mentioned are outside the Cambridge City Council boundary.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocation at Block Fen / Langwood Fen. No adverse effects were concluded for the Ouse Washes SAC, SPA and Ramsar from the policies and allocation contained within the Minerals and Waste documents.</p> <p>In South Cambridgeshire Development could theoretically have an impact on water quantity, through run off from the sites, or water use. It could also have an impact on water quality,</p>	

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	<p>through additional waste products produced. The majority of the District of South Cambridgeshire drains into the River Great Ouse catchment. The Ouse Washes (SAC and Ramsar) form part of this river system. The Swavesey Drain tributary, which drains the northwest part of the District, joins the Great Ouse upstream of the washes. This drain is also utilised by the Uttons Drove wastewater treatment works, which is planned to be utilised to serve Northstowe, as well as Cambourne. It is noted that seasonal flooding plays an important role in the integrity of the Ouse Washes. The Great Ouse, including the Ouse washes, has been identified as a Eutrophic Sensitive Area (Eutrophication occurs where the nutrient richness of the water causes excess growth and decay of algae and other plants, leading to a lack of oxygen. This can be detrimental to wildlife).</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	<p>The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure</p>	<p>As the Ouse Washes is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in new developments and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim</p>

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	<p>that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p> <p>As the development sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from the Ouse Washes, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will not have a likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>The level of development proposed by the South Cambridgeshire District Councils Issues and Options Report could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by new developments or increased journeys. However as the sites are not in close proximity to the site options proposed, it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on their nature or conservation objectives. The report also proposes options to promote sustainable forms of transport.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of Cambridge contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to the Ouse Washes. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p>	<p>to reduce pollution levels.</p>

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 SPD, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for the Ouse Washes. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on the Ouse Washes SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.

Screening Matrix for the Portholme SAC

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the site</p>	<p>Portholme SAC</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL 237708</p> <p>This site has been designated as a SAC due it being the best example of lowland hay meadow (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>, <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>) in the East of England. The site is over 90ha in size and is the largest surviving alluvial flood meadow, traditionally managed, in the UK. There has been a long history of favourable management at the site, with little of the site being subjected to agricultural improvement. As a result it demonstrates good conservation of both its structure and function. The site supports a small population of fritillary (<i>Fritillaria meleagris</i>).</p> <p>The site is located outside of Cambridge City, within Huntingdonshire District Council's area.</p>																		
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect the Ouse Washes?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan and the Cambridge East area action. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations. There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the North West Cambridge area action plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant policies:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="434 1023 2029 1337"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="434 1023 1823 1058">Title</th> <th data-bbox="1823 1023 2029 1058"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1058 1823 1093">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1058 2029 1093">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1093 1823 1128">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1093 2029 1128">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1128 1823 1163">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1128 2029 1163">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1163 1823 1198">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1163 2029 1198">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1198 1823 1233">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1198 2029 1233">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1233 1823 1268">Cambridge Local Plan 2006</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1233 2029 1268">2006</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1268 1823 1303">Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1268 2029 1303">2007</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="434 1303 1823 1337">Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,</td> <td data-bbox="1823 1303 2029 1337">2007</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title		Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006	Cambridge Local Plan 2006	2006	Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007	Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007
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Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006																		
Cambridge Local Plan 2006	2006																		
Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD,	2007																		
Cambridge Planning Obligations Strategy SPD,	2007																		

Cambridge Affordable Housing SPD	2008
Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council	
Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031, South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Issues and Options 2 – Part 1 Joint Consultation on Development Strategy and Site Options on the Edge of Cambridge	2013
Cambridge East Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
North West Cambridge Area Action Plan DPD	2009
Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council	
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF:	
o Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document	2011
o Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document	2012
o Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map A – Mineral and Transport Proposals	2012
o Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Map B – Waste Management Proposals	2012
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o The Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan Supplementary Planning Document	2011
o The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities Supplementary Planning Document	2011
o The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD	2012
Cambridgeshire County Council	
Cambridgeshire Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 Policies and Strategy	2011
South Cambridgeshire District Council	
South Cambridgeshire Core Strategy DPD	2007
South Cambridgeshire Site Specific Policies DPD,	2010
South Cambridgeshire Generic Development Control Policies DPD	2007
Cambridge Southern Fringe Area Action Plan DPD,	2008
Fen Drayton Former LSA SPD	2011
Orchard Park Design Guide SPD	2011
Health Impact Assessment SPD	2011
Landscape in New Developments SPD	2010

	District Design Guide SPD	2010
	Affordable Housing SPD	2010
	Listed Buildings SPD	2009
	Biodiversity SPD	2009
	Trees and Development sites SPD	2009
	Public Art SPD - Adopted January 2009 (SCDC)	2009
	Open Space in New Developments SPD	2009
	Development Affecting Conservation Areas SPD	2009
	Cottenham Village Design Statement SPD	2007
	South Cambridgeshire Gypsy and Traveller DPD	2006
	Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007
	Huntingdonshire District Council	
	Huntingdonshire Core Strategy	2009
	Huntingdonshire Development Management DPD Proposed Submission, 2010	2010
	Huntingdon West Area Action Plan,	2011
	Local Plan to 2036	In progress
	Huntingdonshire Gypsy and Traveller Sites DPD – Issues Report	2009

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
Land take by development	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Portholme SAC and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats.</p> <p>None of the other plans listed above propose development that would take land from this site.</p>	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives for the Portholme SAC relate to species of flora located within the site. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, this is	Due to the distance of the site from the city it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect from the Cambridge Local

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>within the built environment of Cambridge, and is unlikely to have a significant impact on the species listed as being important to Portholme. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.</p>	<p>Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.</p>
<p>Recreational pressure and disturbance</p>	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, are within 5km of the site.</p> <p>In South Cambridgeshire increasing the dwelling stock in the district could increase demand for countryside recreation. However, the site is some distance from the District. There are other countryside access opportunities, existing or proposed, available in more accessible locations to the major centres of population. This includes the Fen Drayton Lakes near Northstowe. New strategic open spaces are already planned, and the Green Infrastructure Strategy proposes new countryside recreation opportunities, to support growth in the area.</p> <p>Portholme is located within Huntingdonshire District Council's administrative area. The minimum dwelling provision between</p>	<p>While the provision of an element of residential development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from the Portholme SAC leads to the conclusion that the Plan is unlikely to lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.</p> <p>The impact of public access is not listed in the vulnerabilities relating to this site contained within the site data. Therefore it is considered unlikely that the level of public use at Portholme SAC will increase greatly as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>2001 and 2021, as required by the RSS, for Huntingdonshire was 11,200 units. The majority of this development was to be concentrated in the most sustainable locations (i.e. market towns) with limited growth in large villages. Huntingdonshire District Council are currently in the process of developing a new Local Plan, their initial issues and options document was consulted on between 21 May and 24 June 2012. This sought initial comment on low, medium and high growth options. Within these are choices of where the homes could be built. Their Plan will include consideration of the Alconbury Enterprise Zone and other proposed development on the Airfield.. more than half of Huntingdonshire lies within 17.2 km of this site (the typical distance travelled to visit a countryside site for the day according to the most recent England Day Visits Survey) with Huntingdon, Brampton and Godmanchester all situated within 2km of the site</p> <p>Huntingdonshire monitors the progress of their Habitats Regulations Assessment and has measures in place to remedy this situation. They monitor standards for provision of new semi-natural greenspace for new developments in line with the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy and ensure that Natural England ANGST criteria are met in order to reduce the pressure on European sites (specifically Portholme SAC, Rutland Water SPA and Orton Pit SAC) Any greenspace created to fulfil these standards will need to serve a similar recreational function to the European sites from which they are intended to draw recreational users (i.e. primarily dog walking and the appreciation of nature). The policy should also include a</p>	

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>note requiring any new open space to be provided in parallel with or in advance of the new development being occupied.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access and the provision of new strategic open space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals will be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as Portholme.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Portholme SAC as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	
Water quantity and quality	<p>The increase in housing identified in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will place higher demand on water. However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand, setting water consumption requirements in line with levels 5 and 6 of the code for sustainable homes. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems through the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from Portholme SAC, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 -</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality at the Portholme SAC. As such it is felt that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, will not result in likely significant impacts on the nature conservation objectives of the site.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	<p>Towards 2031 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>While it is recognised that while there would be an increase in water consumption and in theory on water quality through increased run off as a result of site allocations proposed in Cambridge City and on the fringes of the City the potential impact will be kept to a minimum As the allocation sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from Portholme it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will not have a likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality from new developments. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy Phase 2 findings (August</p>	<p>documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the borrowpit allocations at South West Brampton and West Brampton.</p>

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	<p>2011) - This site did not meet the criteria to be included in the assessment.</p> <p>South Cambridgeshire state that Development could theoretically have an impact on water quantity, through run off from the sites, or water use. It could also have an impact on water quality, through additional waste products produced. The hay meadows are located up stream on the River Ouse catchment. There are general options proposed in the options report to address water quality and flooding, and to protect designated sites.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including the mineral borrowpits at South West Brampton and West Brampton. No adverse effects were concluded for Portholme SAC owing to potential pathways being too long for effects to occur in relation to dust and the two borrowpit sites upstream from Portholme not intercepting significant volumes of flood flows.</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment	As Portholme SAC is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
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	<p>of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy, thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality. As the development sites within Cambridge City are some distance away from Portholme SAC, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City is unlikely to have a significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new development, which is hoped should lead to a reduction in levels of pollution in the immediate environs. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Portholme SAC. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The site is located close to the A14, however improvements are planned which will lead to the rerouting of the A14. This will lead to the removal of a significant amount of traffic away from the site and should lead to a reduction in levels of pollution.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF</p>	<p>of sustainable modes of transport in new developments and should help to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the borrowpit allocations at South West Brampton and West Brampton.</p>

THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:		
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant
	documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the policies and allocations, including the mineral borrowpits at South West Brampton and West Brampton. No adverse effects were concluded for Portholme SAC owing to potential pathways being too long for effects to occur in relation to dust and the two borrowpit sites upstream from Portholme not intercepting significant volumes of flood flows.	

Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for Portholme SAC. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Portholme SAC.

Screening Matrix for the Breckland SAC

<p>Name, location and summary of conservation objectives of the site</p>	<p>Breckland SAC</p> <p>Grid Reference: TL862948</p> <p>This site has been designated as a SAC due to its Inland dunes with open <i>Corynephorus</i> and <i>Agrostis</i> grasslands, Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i>-type vegetation and European dry heaths The site is over 7548.06 ha in size. Breckland in East Anglia is the most extensive surviving area of the rare grassland type CG7 <i>Festuca ovina</i> – <i>Hieracium pilosella</i> – <i>Thymus praecox</i> grassland. The grassland is rich in rare species typical of dry, winter-cold, continental areas, and approaches the features of grassland types in central Europe more than almost any other semi-dry grassland found in the UK. The terrain is relatively flat, with few physical variations, but there are mosaics of calcareous grassland and heath/acid grassland, giving rise to patterns of structural variation.</p> <p>The site is located outside of Cambridge City, within the unitary authority of Norfolk; Suffolk</p>												
<p>Are there any other plans that together with the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could affect the Ouse Washes?</p>	<p>The Draft Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will set out the planning framework to guide the future development of Cambridge. The document affects the whole of the Local Authority area of Cambridge. It will be one of the development plan documents which comprise the city council's Local Development Framework. Other development plan documents include the North West Cambridge area action plan, and the Cambridge East area action plan. The Cambridge Local Plan will contain the following statutory requirements: core strategy; development control policies; site-specific allocations There are other plans for Cambridge City that could, theoretically indirectly affect the site, namely the Cambridge East Area Action Plan (prepared jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council).</p> <p>Other relevant policies:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="454 1091 1946 1332"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="454 1091 1713 1126">Title</th> <th data-bbox="1713 1091 1946 1126"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1126 1713 1195">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge</td> <td data-bbox="1713 1126 1946 1195">2013</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1195 1713 1230">Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report</td> <td data-bbox="1713 1195 1946 1230">2012</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1230 1713 1265">Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1713 1230 1946 1265">2011</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1265 1713 1300">Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1713 1265 1946 1300">2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="454 1300 1713 1332">Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD</td> <td data-bbox="1713 1300 1946 1332">2006</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Title		Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031: Issues and Option 2 –Part 2 – Site Options Within Cambridge	2013	Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 - Issues and Options Report	2012	Eastern Gate Development Framework SPD	2011	Cambridge City Council Public Art SPD	2010	Cambridge City Council - Old Press/Mill Lane Site SPD	2006
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	Northstowe Area Action Plan DPD	2007	
	Kings Lynn and West Norfolk		
	King's Lynn & West Norfolk Core Strategy	2011	
	King's Lynn & West Norfolk Site Specific Allocations and Policies	2011	
	SuffolkCounty Council		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Core Strategy • Minerals Core Strategy • Minerals Specific Site Allocations DPD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2011 • 2008 • 2009 	
THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS:			
Nature of Potential Impact	How the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect the site	Why these effects are not considered to be significant	
Land take by development	The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does not propose any development that will take land from Breckland SAC and will not result in the fragmentation of habitats. None of the other plans listed above propose development that	There are no policies in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 or any other plans that have a direct impact on this site.	

	would take land from this site.	
Impact on protected species outside the protected sites	The conservation objectives relate to heathlands. While the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 does allocate land for development, this is within the built environment of Cambridge; it will not have a significant impact on the sheathland due to the distance from the site. Likewise, locations identified in other relevant plans are not considered likely to have a significant impact on species listed as important to the integrity of the site.	<p>Due to the distance of the site from the city it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 both alone and in combination with other plans on the integrity of this site.</p> <p>Allocations identified in South Cambridgeshire district Councils the Issues and Options Report is not likely to have a significant impact on specifiers listed as important to the integrity of the site.</p>
Recreational pressure and disturbance	<p>Development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will include site allocations for residential uses, and this may lead to an increased demand for access to the countryside recreation. Proposals contained within the Draft Plan are set to increase the dwelling stock in the city to 14,000 by 2031 could also lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation. However, no major proposals contained within the Draft Cambridge Local Plan, are within 5km of Breckland SAC.</p> <p>The South Cambridgeshire Local Plan proposes to increase the dwelling stock by 20,000 or less. Increasing the dwelling stock in the district could increase demand for countryside recreation. However, no options identified are within 5km of the site. Access to the wider site away from rights of way is limited. The site is a significant distance from development options identified in the Issues and Options Report.</p> <p>In addition, many of the new developments proposed in the Cambridge Sub-region will include improvements to countryside access opportunities and the provision of new strategic open</p>	<p>While the provision of an element of residential development resulting from the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 could lead to an increased demand for access to countryside recreation, delivery of additional open space as part of new developments, coupled with the relative distance of development sites from Breckland SAC Fen, leads to the conclusion that the Plan is unlikely to lead to increased recreational pressure and disturbance on this site.</p> <p>It is considered unlikely that the level of public use of Breckland SAC will increase greatly as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>

	<p>space (as demonstrated by the Cambridgeshire Green Infrastructure Strategy, 2011). These proposals would be aimed at the provision of recreation opportunities for use by existing and new communities in more accessible locations than sites such as Breckland SAC.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that there will be no likely significant impact from increased recreational pressure and disturbance on Breckland SAC as a result of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 alone or in combination with other plans.</p>	
Water quantity and quality	<p>The increase in housing identified in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will place higher demand on water. However policies contained within other plans for Cambridge call for water conservation measures to be put in place in all new developments to lessen the impact of this demand, setting water consumption requirements in line with levels 5 and 6 of the code for sustainable homes. In addition, all new development will be required through policy to mitigate their impacts on water runoff and drainage through the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems through the Integrated Water Management and Water Cycle Policy. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from Breckland SAC, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site. As the site allocations within Cambridge City are some distance away from Breckland SAC, it is considered that the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 in combination with plans for development in Cambridge City will have no likely significant impact on this site.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the impacts on water quantity and quality</p>	<p>The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 will be used to guide development and determine planning applications in the City. It will contain policies that should help to alleviate any potential impacts of new development on water quantity and quality at Breckland SAC. As such it is felt that the document, both alone and in combination with other plans, will be unlikely to have a significant impact on Breckland SAC.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocations for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge and the</p>

	<p>from new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Breckland SAC. Many of the other relevant plans contain policies promoting the use of sustainable drainage systems and requirements to restrict surface water run off to no greater than if the site were undeveloped.</p> <p>In South Cambridgeshire Development could theoretically have an impact on water quantity, through run off from the sites, or water use. It could also have an impact on water quality, through additional waste products produced. There are general options proposed in the options report to address water quality and flooding, and to protect designated sites. The impact of water use is explored in the Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy. Cambridge Water Company's strategy to provide additional public water supply to developments at Cambridge would include abstracting the full licensed amount from the boreholes in the Thetford area with no additional abstraction over and above this. Between 2000 and 2010 the Environment Agency reviewed all permissions that were granted before the Habitats Regulations came into force (the 'review of consents'). Thus the abstraction licenses currently in force at Euston and Brettenham have been considered to have acceptable levels of risk of groundwater drawdown within the Breckland European sites. Proposed options regarding level off growth are lower than the level of growth of the East of England Plan which guided Cambridge Water Resource Management Plan.</p> <p>With regards to the impact of increased water consumption as a result of new development, many of the plans identified which are outside Cambridge City contain requirements for water conservation strategies to be provided as part of new development proposals. Water companies have planned for</p>	<p>Area of Search Allocation for a replacement Waste Water Treatment Works North of Ely.</p>
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	<p>new resources and infrastructure in their water resources plans that were submitted in 2004, which cover the period up to 2030. These take into account the growth as outlined in the Sustainable Communities Plan and the majority of supply is anticipated to come from existing licenses (Source: Maintaining Water Supply, Environment Agency, July 2004). Any additional water abstraction from Wicken Fen can only take place if it is shown that it does not adversely affect the sites ecological integrity (Source: The Cam and Ely Ouse Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Consultation Document, Environment Agency October 2006).</p> <p>The water level problems identified as a vulnerability of the site primarily relate to its relationship with the river Cam and issues caused by flood protection measures local to the site introduced in the 1960's.</p> <p>Cambridge Water Cycle Strategy Phase 2 assessment findings (August 2011)</p> <p>Breckland SPA is designated for stone curlew, nightjar and woodlark, none of which are associated with water or wetland habitats. Breckland SAC is mostly associated with dry grassland (59%) and heath (20%), plus various woodland types (19%). Water and wetland habitats are relatively limited, totalling only 1.5% of the area and comprising a mix of rivers, standing waters, fens, bog and marsh.</p> <p>The HRA consideration under the Cambridge WCS relates to the potential to secure additional public water supply from existing major groundwater boreholes to the east of Thetford, and the effects that this could have on groundwater levels and on associated hydrological connections with habitats within the</p>	
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	<p>SPA or SAC.</p> <p>The existing boreholes are located near Euston in the Black Bourn valley and at Brettenham in the River Thet valley. Neither borehole site is directly associated with any Breckland SPA compartment. However, there are SPA compartments¹ associated with the Little Ouse River valley downstream of Euston and the River Thet valley downstream of Brettenham. Additionally, the Environment Agency's characterisation of river basins under the Water Framework Directive has identified that Breckland has a number of groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE), i.e. wetland systems that are supplied by groundwater as opposed to river water or direct rainfall and overland flow. Drawdown of groundwater levels as a result of additional abstraction could result in damage to associated GWDTEs.</p> <p>Since the groundwater aquifer has been identified as vulnerable to over-abstraction, no new consumptive abstractions will be licensed by the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Cambridge Water Company's strategy to provide additional public water supply to developments at Cambridge would include abstracting the full licensed amount from the boreholes in the Thetford area with no additional abstraction over and above this. Additionally, the bulk transfer infrastructure owned and operated by Cambridge Water Company to transfer water from Thetford to Cambridge would not require modification.</p> <p>Between 2000 and 2010 the Environment Agency reviewed all</p>	
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¹ Protected sites are often identified in compartments or units which together form a whole area.

	<p>permissions that were granted before the Habitats Regulations came into force (the 'review of consents'). Thus the abstraction licences currently in force at Euston and Brettenham have been considered to have acceptable levels of risk of groundwater drawdown within the Breckland European sites. Since this licensed abstraction will not change with the proposed developments at Cambridge, there is no risk that these would have an adverse impact on any Breckland SPA or SAC conservation objectives.</p> <p>Thus, Breckland SPA and SAC can be screened out of any further assessment.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the minerals and waste policies and allocations, including the proposed clinical waste facility at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge and the Ely North Area of Search for a replacement Waste Water Treatment Works. No adverse effects were concluded for Breckland SPA and SAC owing to the identified pathways being too great in distance.</p>	
Changes in pollution levels	<p>The objectives of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to improve facilities for pedestrians and cyclists thereby encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport. Policies aimed at providing good access to services and facilities, should help to reduce pollution generated by transport in the vicinity of any new development site. The redevelopment of allocated land offers a number of opportunities to introduce higher sustainability standards, including renewable energy,</p>	<p>As Breckland SAC is not in close proximity to proposed major development sites it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on the site as a result of changes in pollution levels. The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 seeks to encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport in the vicinity of new developments and should help</p>

	<p>thereby helping to reduce pollution from energy generation, albeit on a small-scale. An Air Quality Policy will also be included in the Cambridge Local Plan 2014; this policy relates to air pollution from all potential sources and seeks to ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on air quality.</p> <p>Many of the plans for development outside of the City contain policies to minimise the amount of pollution generated as a result of new developments. Again there are no new developments in close proximity to Breckland SAC. Policies are also included that protect sites of biodiversity importance (including European sites) from adverse impacts from development.</p> <p>The level of development proposed by the South Cambridgeshire District Councils Issues and Options Report could result in increased levels of atmospheric pollution, through the emissions created by new developments or increased journeys. However as the sites are not in close proximity to the site options proposed, it is not considered that there is likely to be any significant impact on their nature or conservation objectives. The options report proposes general policy requirements that development does not harm the identified European Sites and to address air quality.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRA's) for the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents considered potential impacts (alone and in combination with other plans and projects) with all the minerals and waste policies and allocations, including the proposed clinical waste facility at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge</p>	<p>to reduce pollution from transport. Policy requirements contained within other relevant plans and the implementation of an Air Quality policy through the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 aim to reduce pollution levels.</p> <p>The adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents were subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment which was carried out by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council as the relevant competent authorities. No adverse effects were concluded in the HRA's for the Minerals and Waste policies and allocations, including the allocations for a clinical waste facility at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and the Area of Search Allocation for a replacement Waste Water Treatment Works North of Ely.</p>
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	and the Ely North Area of Search for a replacement Waste Water Treatment Works. No adverse effects were concluded for Breckland SPA and SAC owing to the identified pathways being too great in distance.	
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Agencies consulted	Natural England
Response to consultation	To follow

Overall Conclusions:
The Cambridge Local Plan 2014 - Towards 2031, both alone and in combination with other relevant plans, is unlikely to have significant impacts on the conservation objectives for Breckland SPA and SAC. With regards to the possible impacts resulting from policies and allocations contained within the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste LDF documents no adverse effects were identified on Breckland SPA and SAC.